

Calderon, Wanda

From: DeSantis, Emily K (DEC) <emily.desantis@dec.ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 5:47 PM
To: Mears, Mary; Plastiras, James C (HEALTH); Mahar, Sean C (DEC)
Subject: Re: URGENT: Inquiry that might need to go to DOH

We issued this statement today.

For Immediate Release: 01/29/16

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Police Statement on Search Warrant Activity in Hoosick

The following statement is attributable to DEC spokesperson Emily DeSantis:

“Today, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Police executed a search warrant to investigate alleged illegal solid waste dumping in a wooded area off a service road on NY 22 (River Street) in the Town of Hoosick. DEC Police are acting on a tip it received from a concerned citizen. DEC is investigating if this alleged illegal disposal of commercial waste materials contain PFOA and if the soil at the site is contaminated. The investigation is ongoing.”

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From: Mears, Mary
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 5:32 PM
To: Plastiras, James C (HEALTH); DeSantis, Emily K (DEC); Mahar, Sean C (DEC)
Subject: RE: URGENT: Inquiry that might need to go to DOH

Hi everyone,

I got inquiries this afternoon asking for clarification on the 100ppt, from CNN and Inside EPA. I sent them this answer:

EPA is currently using the best science to develop a lifetime health advisory level for PFOA, which the agency expects to release in spring 2016. Lifetime health advisories serve as guidance and are benchmarks for determining if concentrations of chemicals in tap water from public utilities are safe for public consumption. They provide state, local and tribal governments with non-regulatory guidance to make decisions on a local basis in cases where a chemical is not federally regulated. When issued, the lifetime health advisory for PFOA will supersede the provisional health advisory of 400 parts per trillion for PFOA issued in 2009.

In the most recent EPA report on PFOA toxicity, which underwent independent external peer review in August 2014, the agency identified a toxicity value that would result in a lifetime health advisory level of 100 parts per trillion. Health advisories are not released until final, but in response to concerns about PFOA levels in drinking water in Hoosick Falls, NY, EPA decided to share the best available science to protect public health. While finalization of the health advisories continues, out of an abundance of caution EPA recommends that people in Hoosick Falls, NY not use water where

PFOA has been found to be present at a level greater than 100 parts per trillion for drinking or cooking, and instead use bottled water. However, EPA emphasizes that we have not finalized 100 parts per trillion as the lifetime health advisory for PFOA.

Mary Mears

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From: Plastiras, James C (HEALTH) [mailto:James.Plastiras@health.ny.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 12:57 PM
To: Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>; DeSantis, Emily K (DEC) <emily.desantis@dec.ny.gov>; Mahar, Sean C (DEC) <Sean.Mahar@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: URGENT: Inquiry that might need to go to DOH

Thanks Mary,
I will discuss with Program staff and respond to Dan

From: Mears, Mary [mailto:Mears.Mary@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 11:54 AM
To: Plastiras, James C (HEALTH) <James.Plastiras@health.ny.gov>; DeSantis, Emily K (DEC) <emily.desantis@dec.ny.gov>; Mahar, Sean C (DEC) <Sean.Mahar@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: URGENT: Inquiry that might need to go to DOH

I got the following media inquiry while we were on the call, which might be better addressed by DOH. I reached out to my contacts here to see if they have an answer, but if you prefer to handle, let me know.

Hi Mary,

Dan Bazile with WNYT NBC in Albany. I'm working on a story today about the filtration system being installed in Hoosick falls to filter out PFOA. A number of residents have asked me to look into whether residue of the chemical will linger in water pipes throughout the village. Their concern is that even after PFOA has been filtered out at the treatment plant, it will remain in the pipes that feed homes and businesses. Therefore, they believe the water will still not be safe to consume. My deadline is 1pm today. I'm looking for an answer for my viewers. Thank you so much for looking into this.

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From: Plastiras, James C (HEALTH) [<mailto:James.Plastiras@health.ny.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 9:51 AM
To: Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>; DeSantis, Emily K (DEC) <emily.desantis@dec.ny.gov>; Mahar, Sean C (DEC) <Sean.Mahar@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: PFOA/Hoosick Media Inquires

Assume you're talking about the Weitz & Luxenberg event? If so, we have not received any inquiries

From: Mears, Mary [<mailto:Mears.Mary@epa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 9:47 AM
To: DeSantis, Emily K (DEC) <emily.desantis@dec.ny.gov>; Plastiras, James C (HEALTH) <James.Plastiras@health.ny.gov>; Mahar, Sean C (DEC) <Sean.Mahar@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: PFOA/Hoosick Media Inquires

FYI. I think we will say it wouldn't be appropriate for us to comment or attend, as this is really about legal options for residents. I haven't responded yet, though. Did you all get the same inquiry?

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From: DeSantis, Emily K (DEC) [<mailto:emily.desantis@dec.ny.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 11:22 AM
To: Martin, John <Martin.JohnJ@epa.gov>; Plastiras, James C (HEALTH) <James.Plastiras@health.ny.gov>; Mahar, Sean C (DEC) <Sean.Mahar@dec.ny.gov>
Cc: Bowser, Andre <Bowser.Andre@epa.gov>; Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: PFOA/Hoosick Media Inquires

Thanks John.

From: Martin, John
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 11:21 AM
To: DeSantis, Emily K (DEC); Plastiras, James C (HEALTH); Mahar, Sean C (DEC)
Cc: Bowser, Andre; Mears, Mary
Subject: PFOA/Hoosick Media Inquires

Hello all,

Just want to give you guys a heads up that we have received inquiries late yesterday and today from the AP regarding EPA's efforts to address PFOA nationally; an inquiry from Inside EPA about the Superfund listing process; and a request from NBC Channel 13 in Albany to have an EPA expert describe how carbon filtration works.

John

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